

# Richmond Times-Dispatch

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THE DISPATCH, Founded.....1880

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A WORTH-WHILE GIFT—You can make your friends happy every day in the year by sending them a subscription to THE RICHMOND TIMES-DISPATCH



## Red Cross Seals for Christmas

SO heavy are the demands on benevolence, made this year by suffering at home and abroad, there is danger that one especially worthy charity will be overlooked. That is the Virginia Anti-Tuberculosis Society, for the extension of whose work the Red Cross seal is sold.

No large individual gifts are sought, of course, in this particular aspect of the society's appeal. The seals cost but a penny, but their sale, it is hoped, will bring aggregate results of helpful importance.

The fight on the white plague, which has been waged with such determination in many parts of the country, begins to show itself in lessened mortality from this disease. Every Red Cross seal purchased and sent out with a Christmas letter or parcel adds this great campaign against suffering and death, and carries its message afar.

## Help to Assure Better Baseball!

THERE will be no difficulty in raising half the capital stock of the new Richmond baseball club, which will represent this city in the International League. Jack Dunn, who will bring the Baltimore Orioles to Richmond, desires to purchase half the stock, and he is not likely to place a prohibitive price on his players and franchise.

The club should be provided with enough capital to finance it adequately and assure Richmond creditable representation. It is important that there should be a large number of stockholders, for by this division of ownership public interest in the team and its accomplishments will be increased and public pride stimulated.

Doubtless, there will be a large attendance at the meeting, to be held at the Business Men's Club on Tuesday evening. The company that is to be formed and the club that is to be enlisted should have public support just as long as they are entitled to it, and certainly they are entitled to it at the start.

## "Ladies of the Jury!"

IN February the woman juror will begin life in Wyandotte County, Kas. The sheriff, having first discreetly sounded the ladies as to their willingness to serve without creating a scene, has drawn a list of fifty fair Jurresses (?) who, with the wisdom of Portias, will weigh the fact while the most honorable court expounds the law. Frivolous paragraphs will now proceed to extract great wit from the circumstance that the name of the county is also a breed of chicken, producing particularly fine hens. However that may be, the fact remains that Wyandotte will push itself into the limelight forthwith.

And yet, why not? Women on the jury will appeal for the first week or two as a novelty. There will be a certain curiosity, and gentlemen of the law will begin to select words lying within the scope of what they foolishly imagine to be limited feminine comprehension. For a time, court officers will treat the skirted jurors with deference and judges will patronize them. But all this will wear off as business settles down to clearing the docket, and it is a safe wager that before the end of the February term there will be more evidence of justice, and perhaps more of common sense, than Wyandotte County has seen for a long time.

We're committed to the ladies—in Wyandotte County, Kas.

## Malicious Journalism

THERE are Washington correspondents who seem loaded to the muzzle with a desire to misinterpret motives and embarrass the administration by sending out such fake stories as the recent one on the request of Colonel Goethals, just granted, for destroyers to maintain neutrality on the Canal Zone. Because Secretary Garrison was willing to take Colonel Goethals' opinion as sufficient justification, and President Wilson and Secretary Bryan favored delaying until more definite reasons could be given for sending the destroyers, these correspondents wrote feverishly of a "split in the Cabinet," and a certain class of newspapers put big headlines on front page displays, such as are used for sensations.

Of course, the correct statement from Wash-

ington is one that shows President Wilson and Secretary Bryan are not going to be swept off their feet by impressions. And there is not and will not be the slightest split. The administration has been just as wise in its handling of the Mexican border situation, for there is a serious question whether the United States could fire across the border without defining the act as one of war or retaliation, and there is no precedent in the international code for a mere bluff. The administration, which did not lose its head at Vera Cruz, by watchful waiting and temperate action at last did more to set in motion the best thought of Mexico than had even been attempted in the country that murdered Maximilian and Madero.

If Colonel Goethals needs battleships and cruisers to maintain neutrality, he will get them; if Texas and Arizona need troops, even to cross the border and stop careless slaughter of Americans, they will get them; if in the course of events the requirements of humanity should call for actual seizure of Mexico by a benevolent neighboring government, no person need fear that the right thing will not be done at the right time. But this administration has anchored itself too squarely on undying principles to permit a few jingo journals, with the "off-color" class of correspondents, to disturb its equanimity for a single moment. When Theodore Roosevelt has so signally failed to do that very thing, there is little use of the scare-em-up scribbles trying it, because in searing 'em up Theodore is a past master, and he has aroused only derisive giggles and pleasant persiflage by the mighty thunder of his windbags.

Don't worry, people; Washington knows what it's doing, and why.

## Bombarding Britain Into Action

BOMBARDMENT of unfortified and undefended towns on the coast of England affords new evidence of the Germans' determination to make rules of war as they go along. Those persons who believe with General Sheridan, that war should be made as brutal and cruel as possible, and that the non-combatant population of an enemy's country should be so harried and oppressed that "they will have no other use for their eyes save to weep with them," will approve, doubtless, this latest exhibition of German military policy, but it will have neither support nor sympathy in any other quarter. There is admiration, of course, for its naval skill and reckless daring, but there approval ends and condemnation begins.

Outside of Berlin the inspiration of the attack must be largely a matter of speculation. Of course, it was intended directly the outcome of the war. If Scarborough and Whitby had been entirely destroyed, England's vulnerability would have been increased in about the same ratio as would this country's by the destruction by a hostile fleet of Atlantic City and Asbury Park. The English towns are seaside resorts, with absolutely no strategic or military importance.

It must be assumed that the effect sought by the Germans was psychological. They hoped to spread terror through England, to shake British confidence in the inviolability of the tight little island, and, perhaps, to induce the British fleet, in response to an aroused and frightened public sentiment, to attack the German fleet in its mined and fortified retreats at Heligoland and Wilhelmshaven. It may be, as some authorities have suggested, that the hoped-for result was the diversion of British reinforcements from the front in France and Belgium to purposes of coast defense.

How far any of these hopes will be realized time will show, but we in America have a poor understanding of the British temperament and spirit if this naval raid does not prove to have been another stupid blunder of the German War Office. The invasion of Belgium certainly was a blunder, for it not only brought England into the war, which England might have entered anyhow, but gave to England's cause the sympathy and approval of this country and nearly the whole neutral world. That neutral sympathy will be strengthened by a senseless cannonading of unfortified towns and the killing of women and children.

Unless we are greatly mistaken, the raid will have another and more potent effect. It will carry this war home to England in a way not possible by any carnage abroad, pierce the crust of self-complacency and supply to the more stolid elements of the population the inspiration they may have needed to offer their lives in defense of their country.

This effect, indeed, is apparent already in the rush to enlist in London and in other cities and towns. If Britain has been lethargic, as Germany and pro-German critics have declared, it is so no longer. The thunder of German guns, battering to pieces summer hotels and bathing pavilions on the east coast, has been more potent in its call to arms than the appeals of Lord Kitchener and even than the British blood shed on the battlefields of France.

## Congress Refuses to Be Bluffed

REPORTS from Washington are to the effect that the bills introduced in Congress by Senator Hitchcock and others, which are designed to prohibit the export of arms and ammunition to nations now at war, are in no danger of passing. These reports have all the appearance of probability, and also indicate that Congress is managing to retain its sound sense and discretion even in these too-martial days.

From the beginning of this government it has stanchly protested the right of its citizens to sell arms to belligerents, and that right is recognized in international law. Munitions of war, of course, are contraband and subject to seizure by the enemies of the country to which they may be consigned, but this consideration does not affect the right to sell them and to deliver them, if that be possible. The fact is that all these efforts to curtail a business in which many Americans are engaged, and which has mitigated to some extent the losses the war has caused this country, have a Teutonic origin. Germany and her friends do not want Americans to sell arms to the allies, because the allies control the high seas, and we cannot sell to Germany. That is Germany's misfortune, but not our fault, for American manufacturers would be charmed, under other circumstances, to sell her all the arms they could make and she could use.

"Worried Reader" is informed that the letters R. P. H. are the initials of Richmond P. Hobson, and do NOT stand for Rather Phony Heroics.

New York policemen are each to give one penny towards a testimonial to the officer who wrote a police textbook. Indicating its value?

From Boston 4,000,000 eggs have been shipped to London. Eggs in Boston are quoted at 45 cents a dozen.

## SONGS AND SAWS

Plant of the Rich.  
We own a dustless sweeper  
And fireless cooker, too;  
A playerless piano  
Of wondrous tone and hue.

Our big refrigerator  
Is odorless, you know,  
And our horseless carriage  
Won prizes at the show.

We hire a painless dentist,  
Who for our molars cares;  
In soulless corporations  
We own some million shares.

But now that Christmas nears us  
And things begin to hum,  
Oh, may our son be given  
A noiseless horn and drum!

Conclusive.  
"I've Sleuth—Can you  
make out if our man passed  
this way?"  
Second Hawkshaw—I feel  
perfectly sure of it. We  
know he wore shoes, and  
these footprints indicate  
clearly that the man who  
made them was equipped in  
the same way.

Hard to Choose.  
Grubbs—Do you consider the pun the lowest  
form of wit?  
Stubbs—Well, I think jokes about mothers-  
in-law, goats and whiskers run it a close second.

The Pessimist Says:  
Twisting the British lion's tail may result  
in a bite as well as a growl.

The Pikers.  
He (bitterly)—Marrying is a lottery.  
She (sweetly)—Of course it is. And have you  
ever noticed that the men who make the small-  
est investments are always most disappointed  
when they fail to get the grand prize?

Hard Lines.  
The politician's grievance.  
Election's far away,  
And few and small the pickings  
He'll get before that day.

## Chats With Virginia Editors

From this observation of Editor George Greene, in his Clifton Forge Review, we deduce that one of the Christmas gifts that man's town needs is a sidewalk cleaning ordinance: "The man who has a large frontage to his business house and residence usually brags about it until there is a heavy snow, and then he prefers less space."

"Somebody has suggested an institution for the care of old and infirm baseball players," the Bristol Herald-Courier informs us. Somehow we had formed the impression that the vaudeville stage had been adopted as such.

The Danville Bee commends the suggestion of Governor Stuart to colonize Belgian husbandmen in the agricultural districts of Virginia and says: "Then when they come we should not seek to hold lands at prohibitive prices or to trade on their necessities. The State Agricultural and Immigration Bureau can do this, and the special session of the General Assembly should provide the means to do it without delay."

The Southwest Times, of Pulaski, protests against an objectionable practice of some of the tobacco chewers of the town in an editorial, which begins: "Did you ever notice the post-office flag? It is a shame this sign on the wall: 'Do Not Spit on the Floor: To Do So May Spread Disease'? It is a shame that our citizens can't stop the habit of spitting on the floors of public buildings." The points in the argument that follows are all well taken. A Pulaskian who can't use the wall or expectorate over his chin has no right to chew tobacco.

The Lynchburg Advance congratulates Richmond on the perpetuation in this city of the community Christmas tree, and adds: "There is a movement on now to have a community Christmas tree in Lynchburg. All the movement needs is the approval of the people of Lynchburg and it will be had. There is little expense attached to it, no real trouble, and the gain, while not in material things, is almost tangible and most valuable." Thus the Advance exemplifies the spirit of living up to its name. Here's hoping the rest of City folks will rally 'round the flag of Santa Claus like regulars!

We have this assurance from Editor Hiram Ople, of the Staunton Leader, that his fellow-townsmen are doing their part toward the Belgian relief movement: "Don't be surprised, gentlemen of Staunton, if you fall to find your favorite trousers or the pajamas and suits of underwear you put away carefully, expecting to get into them later. They thought you did not need them; besides, they did not like them anyway—and they are now safely on their way to the needy Belgians." Which goes to show that the Belgians have friends indeed in Staunton who are friends in need.

From the Newport News Press: "You cannot hate a man you know," says President Wilson. We infer from that Champ Clark does not hate Secretary Bryan. The editor obviously does not know the Christian spirit of Woodrow Wilson. If the President made the remark quoted, it is dollars to doughnuts he intended the insertion of a comma after the word man.

"The climax of a class," says Helen Rowland, is that exquisite psychological movement just before it happens. We do not know Helen, but we take it that Helen knows," says the Norfolk Virginian-Pilot's qualified expert on osculation. He fails to take into consideration that much depends upon when the response is made. The species discussed by Miss Rowland didn't happen in Norfolk.

## Current Editorial Comment

Finding work for the unemployed.  
Finding work for the unemployed cannot be called one of the conspicuous successes of social organization; if Germany should win it would be by excellence in this respect as well as in fighting.

In the course of the individual's life, under the control of the state, countries where, according to the German view, a more primitive type of government still survives, imagination in an emergency does not go far beyond public works, and public works are not to be looked upon as some useless or, at any rate, needless enterprise, undertaken chiefly to keep the idle busy, much as a vagrant's lodging-house provides a woodpile—not so much because wood is needed as because sawing it gives the lumber discomfort enough to balance the pleasure he gets from bed and breakfast. This is, of course, a very narrow view of emergency work and its possibilities, and it is apparent that if the social machinery existed a considerable variety of useful work could be saved for dull times, just as a far-sighted farmer or business man plans his own routine. It is a matter not of creating, but of distributing employment, and in proportion as State and city work by a plan looking far into the future, they can have reserves of employment to be called into play when they are needed.—Springfield Republican.

As an indication of how rapidly the financial and commercial tide is changing in our favor, it is announced from Washington that the first of the long series of bills were initiated in October by Sir George Paish and B. B. Blackett, the English economic experts, have been called off by mutual consent. The mission, from the British standpoint, seemed so urgent that that these gentlemen were sent to the United States to arrange,

if possible, for the adjustment of some of our large foreign balance, and as a result, our officials at Washington made a number of proposals for relieving the burden of our indebtedness to Great Britain last September was estimated at between \$200,000,000 and \$300,000,000, and there has some cause for the polite reminder of Sir George Paish to suggest that it would not be amiss to soothe the feelings of our foreign creditors by at least a small remittance on account. The representatives of both governments have now come to the conclusion that it is unnecessary to take any further steps in this direction, and that the current of trade is running so strongly toward this country that international obligations can be left to adjust themselves. If the war to lines in six months longer, the balance may be wholly wheeled out; and if it continues for a year, we may have to send financial agents to England to dun our British customers. It is a very ill wind that is blowing over Europe, but it cannot be blamed if it blows some good to us.—Baltimore Sun.

## War News Fifty Years Ago

(From the Richmond Dispatch, Dec. 18, 1864.)

There is every reason to suppose that another considerable portion of Sheridan's troops, heretofore kept busy in the Valley, have come over to join Grant on the front of Petersburg. None of them have yet appeared on the Richmond front.

There was nothing doing at Petersburg yesterday or last night, or if there was, no news of it reached Richmond. There seems to be no doubt that all of the men on both sides of the line are taking a kind of Christmas holiday, and the private soldiers are enjoying it.

There came some ugly reports of the doings of General Warren's men after they had been defeated at Bellfield and while they were retreating to the lines in front of Petersburg. It is said that they applied the torch to private property wherever they got the chance, and many citizens of the two intervening counties suffered accordingly. It is also said that hundreds of the soldiers of the Warren contingent became common thieves as they marched along, and in at least two instances they became worse than that, where they found homes occupied by only defenseless women.

Rear-Admiral Porter reports to the Yankee government, reporting from Port Monroe, that the Federal gunboat Cherokee captured the Confederate blockade runner Emma Hendry, laden with 700 bales of Confederate cotton. The report lacks confirmation.

Just exactly who the Confederates deem it necessary to keep up the constant shelling at Dumfries, and the shelling still goes on. Yesterday and last night there was a constant firing that could be distinctly heard in all of Richmond, and kept every man, woman and child awake, folks who could have been doing better had they been allowed to sleep peacefully.

The trains at Glade Spring, down in Southwest Virginia, were not lost to the enemy, as at first reported. General Breckenridge, who was at Wytheville, heard of the Yankee doings at Glade Spring, and he hurriedly got all of the trains and all of the engines on the road in active operation. He used the telegraph lines freely, and within three hours had all of the trains and all of the engines at his command. Getting the trains assembled, not having any other name, he soon loaded them with troops and supplies and hurried them on to Saltville, reaching there several hours ahead of the Yankees, and thus he saved the salt works.

All of the news from the Southwest yesterday was good to everybody except the extortioners and salt smugglers, who, having heard that the Yankees were likely to capture the salt works, rushed around and bought up every sack of salt they could find, expecting to make big profits when the Yankees captured the salt works. The Yankees have not taken the salt works, and are not likely to do so, and it is to be hoped these speculators and salt extortioners will get very badly left, and the indications are that they will.

The discharge in Canada of the alleged St. Albans raiders is a distinct victory to the Confederate cause. There was no sense in the arrest of these people and less in their arraignment before a Canadian court. The Yankees are to learn that their law and that of England differs very much.

M. W. Yarrington, treasurer of the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad, announces the declaration of a dividend on the capital stock of the company of 15 per cent, payable January 1 at the company's offices in this city.

## The Voice of the People

Help Our Own Poor First!

Sir,—In today's paper I see that the day's contributions for the Belgian relief fund were \$1,090, being in another column I read that the distress of the poor grows with the freezing weather, many are supported by mere children and others without means of any kind. There is tremendous amount of illness among the poor men and women slowly dying of tuberculosis and in constant fear of being put out. Receipts for the day \$22.50.

Who would not be a Belgian under the circumstances? For while the Belgian's lot is hard enough, he has the sympathy of the whole world. The man out of a job gets nothing.

I see no reason why both should not be helped, but if this is possible, the Virginian babies are as precious as the Belgian babies, and if this is so, why starve the Virginian babies so that the Belgian babies can live?

The Good Book says he that provideth not for those of his own household is worse than an infidel? What about those churches who are pouring their gifts into the treasury for the Belgians and letting their own household in Virginia starve?

There has been some discussion about bringing the Belgians over to Virginia, but my advice is that they had much better stay where they are, as there is some chance there; but if they come over here, there is no advertisement any longer in feeding them, we will promptly let them starve.

We find that the churches and wealthy men are giving liberally to the Belgians because they desire to get a ship across carrying the Virginian flag. Surely there would be more advertisement and also more satisfaction in blazoning on our flag that Virginia is the first State by proper laws to abolish poverty within its own borders.

Richmond, December 17.

G. F. MARSH.

## Queries and Answers

Please let me know the age of the oldest cat of which you have any knowledge.

MRS. C. W. ASTROP.  
The question would be better covered by notes sent in by some of our readers.

Notary and Pension Papers.  
May a notary charge for putting seal on pension papers for United States pensions? Has a person who is interested in the real or personal property of his stepfather? H. W. G.

No. No.

Fresh Air Schools.  
Where may I find out about the fresh air schools in Richmond?

MRS. C. W. ASTROP.  
This question was answered within the last few weeks. Write Dr. J. A. C. Chandler, Superintendent of Schools, Richmond, Va.

Old Coins, Etc.  
Lists from E. L. P., R. T. Thomas, L. G. R. and Frank Wallace contain nothing worth selling.

A Problem.  
Please solve for me this problem: Had a bin contained twice as much oats, and had they been sold at the same price as fast, they would have lasted forty-eight weeks. How long did they last?

STUDENT.  
By analysis, twice the real weight lasting forty-eight weeks, the real weight would last twenty-four weeks; and, being twenty-four weeks at a certain rate of use, it would last one-quarter as long at a four-times-faster rate of use, or the oats would last six weeks.

William C. Rives.  
Please state the dates of the legislative services of William C. Rives, of Virginia. C. S. D., State Legislature, 1817-19 and 1822; Member of Congress, 1825-9; United States Senator, 1832-45.

## DRIVE DULL CARE AWAY

One of the Day's Best Cartoons.



THE AIRCRAFT MENACE.

## THE PASSING OF TAOISM IN CHINA

BY JEREMIAH W. JENKS, PH. D., LL. D.

The great war causes many thoughtful men and women to raise the question whether Christianity, this Christmas of 1914, has proved itself efficacious in actually bringing "peace on earth and good will among men." It is asserted by some that the largely non-Christian peoples of the Orient are observing very closely the course of this conflict between a majority of the great Christian nations, having in their minds the impression that belief in the supremacy of the Christian religion over Eastern civilization is weakened, if not shattered, because of apparent inconsistencies in practice between the present-day followers of the Good Man of Galilee, and the spirit as well as the letter of the Sermon on the Mount.

Without entering into a discussion of either of these positions, actual or asserted, and merely for the purpose of recording an important historical fact, it may be worth while to point out that in the only nation which has survived all the many changes which the world has witnessed since the eastern shore of the Mediterranean was first trodden by the feet of the great Teacher, the Chinese nation has remained the same to this day.

Shortly after the establishment of the Chinese republic and the election of President Yuan Shih-kai, the governor of Kiangsi Province, under the assent of the authorities at Peking to the abolition of the Taoist title of Jen Zen, "Holy Man," which had been held by the emperor, designated the direct male descendants of Chang Tao-ling, who is credited with having founded Taoism as a development of the philosophic doctrines of the great Lao-tse, as the legitimate successors of the emperor, and followed by the confederation of the Jen Zen soul, and the termination of an annual pension of 350 Haikwan taels (about \$200 in round figures), which had been paid to the Jen Zen, or Taoist pope, by one of the Emperors of the Taching dynasty.

Two months ago General Chang Hsun, the reactionary military leader, who is believed to have been largely responsible for the excesses, undoubtedly committed at Nanking during the counterrevolution of 1912, presented a memorial to President Yuan requesting that the confiscated seal, the title and the pension be restored to the Taoist pope. General Chang contended that his request was in accordance with the "constitutional religious freedom" ordained with the establishment of the Republic, and he also asserted that Taoism, "whose remote origin dates back to the Yellow Emperor and Lao-tse, is the oldest religion of China and therefore merits our reverence and preservation."

The President referred this memorial to the Minister of the Interior—a strong progressive and a good friend to Christianity, by the way—who reported that as the Taoist sect, founded by Chang Tao-ling, was merely a system of conjuration and alchemy, it cannot claim to have originated in the philosophy of Lao-tse; and that, as the titles of Jen Zen, "Holy Man," and Jen Tze, "Heavenly Teacher," were merely traditional appellations given by the Taoist followers to their leaders—not dissimilar to the titles of "father" or "pastor" among the Christians—the Taoists are at liberty to continue to address their leaders by such titles if they so desire, although the government as such has no business to confer such titles upon any sect, and so the matter rests. Taoism is surely dying in China.

Theoretically, Taoism is the development of a philosophy—the doctrine of "the right way," or, as some say, "the return to the ideal of human happiness." The great Lao-tse, about whose life hundreds and scores of hundreds of books have been written, enunciated the original principles about 670 B. C.

Taoism Has Degenerated.  
But, as we are told by R. P. Johnson, the author of "Lion and Dragon in Northern China," Taoism has "degenerated into a debased ritual, embodying a polytheistic hotchpotch of witchcraft and demonology."

According to the Peking police census of 1908, there were in the capital city of China only 123 Taoist priests as compared with 1,553 Buddhist priests. Buddhism, too, is disintegrating in China, while a recent report from authentic sources showed the Christians in China exceeding all denouements, as numbering in the neighborhood of 2,000,000. One of the leading missionary authorities has reported that there are already some native Christian teachers and preachers in China to safeguard the propagation of the Christian faith in that country. All reports agree that Christianity is making great strides in China.

In China to-day freedom of belief is as actual as it is or even has been in any land on earth. This will sound like a remarkable statement to those who still regard China as the China of the Manchus, but it is quite true, and can be readily verified.

China's attitude towards religious matters was admirably verified very recently by President Yuan Shih-kai in the proclamation which he issued immediately before the birthday of Confucius—September 28. In certain respects Confucius takes much the same place in the hearts and minds of the Chinese people as does George Washington in the hearts and minds of Americans. And, allowing for natural differences of habit and environment, we can best understand the Chinese attitude towards religion by comparing the Chinese attitude towards George Washington.

There is every reason to suppose that another considerable portion of Sheridan's troops, heretofore kept busy in the Valley, have come over to join Grant on the front of Petersburg. None of them have yet appeared on the Richmond front.

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dernst the birthday honors paid today to Confucius by the Chinese by an appreciation of the national spirit which underlies our own celebration of Washington's birthday. It is quite true that while Confucius, like Washington, united his people, and may be said to have embodied personally the nativity of the national spirit, he was essentially the moral teacher, the philosopher, the sage.

"For thousands of years," says Yuan Shih-kai, of China—himself, a great philosopher, as well as a soldier and a statesman—"the foundation of the Chinese nation has rested on conceptions of true morality. All her laws, all government, family relations and social customs are products of the teachings of the great master. Dynasties may rise and fall; cycles of fate may be favorable or adverse; still the teachings of Confucius have remained ever forcible, ever new through successive ages—everlasting, as nature itself is everlasting."

"Since the revolution, however, many thousands of persons have misinterpreted the doctrine of 'virtue' and 'liberty,' transgressed the bounds of morality and become wanton and devoid of probity in their character. Essentials of morality and proper human relations have been abandoned; licentiousness has prevailed; until China has been threatened with the danger of becoming a nation of robbers (tufo) and beasts."

Want to Preserve Nation's Ethics.  
"Your President, realizing the heavy weight of responsibility which rests on his shoulders, has thought over the situation through the day and through the night, and he has come to believe that, under the government of the Republic, the change in accordance with the spirit of the times, our ethics and moral habits must needs be preserved. Every nation in the world has its own national spirit inherited from its ancestors and manifesting itself in the national character. China has followed her sage, knowing that the management of a family, the government of a state or the pacification of the world must all begin with the rectitude of the individual."

Therefore, the act of honoring our great sages is merely in accordance with a sincere sense of reverence and admiration on the part of millions of our people, and is by no means comparable, or to be confused with any policy of promoting any particular religious sect.

"Let it be known to all citizens that the state desires to emphasize the supreme importance of morality and virtue. All will be uplifted and be imbued with this spirit, that gradually we may arrive at the Confucian ideal state of perfect harmony."

How much in accord with the teachings of the great Galilean are these ideas, embodied by the Chinese President! Is there any comfort to be derived by Christians from the fact that on this Christmas Day, while the majority of the Christian powers of Europe are arrayed against each other in Flanders, in the Balkans, in Poland, on the other side of the world in the one nation, which was the contemporary of ancient Judea, Babylon, Rome, Greece, under the Athenian philosophers, under the Egyptian Pharaohs, the trend is towards, and not away from, Christianity; and that, there, an organization of religious worship, which once contested for pride of place with the priestcraft built upon the